Attached below, please find a press release courtesy of the House Armed Services Committee that clarifies the position of House Republicans on the issue of legal immigrants serving in the United States Armed Forces.



HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE DUNCAN HUNTER – CHAIRMAN

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 10, 2006 Contact: Josh Holly

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Hunter Statement Clarifying House Position on Legal Immigrants Serving in the United States Armed Forces

Washington, D.C. --- U.S. House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) released the following statement to clarify misrepresentations made at a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing today about the House position on allowing legal immigrants to serve in the United States armed forces. The House-passed *Border Protection, Antiterrorism and Illegal Immigration Control Act* would continue to allow immigrants legally in the United States to serve in the United States military.

"Legal immigrants continue to serve honorably in the United States armed forces and their status makes their service and sacrifice no less important. The House border security bill does not change the ability of legal immigrants to wear a uniform in defense of our nation," said Hunter.

"Those who volunteer to serve in our armed services and risk their lives to protect the freedom of the American people deserve an expedited path to full citizenship."

"My Senate colleagues must be reminded that it is the House of Representatives which created the provision in P.L. 108-136 which allows legal immigrants serving in the military to expeditiously apply for U.S. citizenship," continued Hunter.

An outline of those provisions, which were contained in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2004, is available here.

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http://armedservices.house.gov/